



**UNITED STATES MARINE BAND • MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**  
**Colonel Jason K. Fettig, Director**

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**ANNOUNCES VACANCY FOR VIOLIN**

Auditions for violin will be held on Monday, March 12, 2018, beginning at 8:00 a.m., at the Marine Barracks Annex, 7th & L Streets, SE in Washington, D.C. The registration desk will be open from 7:15 a.m. until 12:00 noon, but applicants are urged to check in by 8:00 a.m. No specific audition times will be assigned; musicians will be heard in the order in which they appear and register. If not completed on March 12, auditions will continue on Tuesday, March 13. Applicants should therefore be available to perform on both days. Applicants will be placed on the audition list upon the Marine Band's receipt of a current résumé and completed applicant factsheet. These items should be received by the Marine Band before the day of the audition. The audition committee reserves the right to dismiss any candidate not meeting the highest professional standards.

"The President's Own," which includes the Marine Band and Marine Chamber Orchestra, is America's oldest continuously active professional musical organization. Its mission is unique—to provide music for the President of the United States and the Commandant of the Marine Corps. Musicians perform frequently at the White House in small ensembles, chamber orchestra, concert band, and as soloists. The orchestra also performs for a wide variety of commitments to include public concerts, chamber music recitals, military ceremonies, and state functions.

Today's Marine Band is composed of 154 of the nation's finest musicians. Those selected for the U.S. Marine Band and Marine Chamber Orchestra are exempt from recruit training and are appointed to the rank of Staff Sergeant (E-6) under a contract "for duty with the U.S. Marine Band only." The winner of the audition will receive instructions regarding enlistment procedures.

The audition will consist of the following:

**PRELIMINARIES**

- A) Prepared solo of one's choice
- B) Excerpts from the following (enclosed):
  - Symphony No. 39 in E-flat, K. 543 (Mozart)
  - Symphony No. 1 in C, Op. 21 (Beethoven)
  - Symphony No. 9 in D minor, Op. 125 (Beethoven)
  - Symphony No. 4 in B-flat, Op. 60 (Beethoven)
  - Symphony No. 3 in F, Op. 90 (Brahms)
  - Symphony No. 4 in E minor, Op. 98 (Brahms)
  - Scherzo from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Mendelssohn)
  - Don Juan*, Op. 20 (R. Strauss)

**SEMIFINALS (any or all of the following may be requested)**

- C) Prepared solo of one's choice (same solo as above)
  - Excerpts from the list above
  - Prepared sight-reading (10 minutes of practice time allowed)

**FINALS (to be performed with members of "The President's Own" string section)**

- D) Excerpts from the following (enclosed):
  - String Quartet in F, 1st movement, 1st Violin (Ravel)
  - String Quartet in F, K. 590, 1st movement, 1st Violin (Mozart)
  - String Quartet in C, Op. 59, No. 3, 3rd movement, 2nd Violin (Beethoven)
  - String Quartet in C. Op. 59, No. 3, 4th movement, 1st Violin (Beethoven)

For further information, please write or call the following:

Marine Band Operations • 8th & I Streets, S.E. • Washington, D.C. 20390-5000  
telephone: (202) 433-5714 • fax: (202) 433-4752 • [www.marineband.marines.mil](http://www.marineband.marines.mil)



*"The President's Own"*  
**UNITED STATES MARINE BAND**  
 Colonel Jason K. Fettig, Director

*Please print or type.*

**APPLICANT FACT SHEET**

**NOTICE:** Prior to submitting this form, please verify that you meet the standard basic qualifications necessary to become a member of the U.S. Marine Band. To review a list of these requirements, please visit our website at: [www.marineband.marines.mil](http://www.marineband.marines.mil) / Career Information

<b>PERSONAL INFO.</b>	First Name:		Middle Initial:	Last Name:	
	Position(s) for which you are applying:				
	Street Address:			Apartment:	
	City:			State:	Zip Code:
	Primary Phone:		Secondary Phone:		
	E-mail Address:			Are you a United States Citizen? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
	Date of Birth:		Date available for enlistment:		
<b>MILITARY</b>	Do you have prior U.S. Military service? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			If so, how long did you serve?   Years:   Months:	
	Are you now on active duty or reserve status? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			When does your contract end?	
	Please list your current rank, unit and duty station:				
<b>REFERENCES</b>	Name:		Name:		
	Title / Position:		Title / Position:		
	Phone:		Phone:		
	E-mail:		E-mail:		

Please return this completed application and your current résumé by one of the following methods (in order of preference):

<b>E-MAIL:</b> <a href="mailto:marineband.operations@usmc.mil">marineband.operations@usmc.mil</a>  <b>FACSIMILE:</b> (202) 433-4752	<b>MAIL:</b> Operations Officer United States Marine Band Marine Barracks, 8th and I Streets, SE Washington, DC 20390-5000
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NOTE: Items submitted through the U.S. Mail are not delivered in a timely manner as they are diverted to an off-site security screening center before being forwarded to our facility. This process may cause a significant delay in the delivery of your materials.

Your name will be added to the audition list upon receipt of your application materials, and you will receive an e-mail confirming your appearance at the audition. If you are unable to attend or have further questions, please call (202) 433-5714 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. eastern time on weekdays.

**PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT FOR U.S. MARINE BAND APPLICANTS**

This statement is provided in compliance with the provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) which requires Federal agencies to inform individuals who are requested to furnish personal information about themselves.

1. Authority. 10 U.S.C. 5063, MCO P5211.2
2. Principal Purposes. The information that will be requested from you in the selection process and personal interview is intended to provide a basis on which to evaluate your suitability to hold a position with the United States Marine Band. This information may also be used to inform applicants of additional opportunities in Marine Corps music.
3. Routine Uses. In addition to being used by U. S. Marine Band staff in the audition and evaluation process, pertinent information will be provided to other government activities in a preliminary screening to determine your ability to obtain a security clearance granting Category III White House Access, **which is a requirement for duty with the United States Marine Band.**
4. Disclosure of this information is voluntary, but failure to do so could result in the inability of U. S. Marine Band staff to evaluate your suitability for a position in the United States Marine Band and could preclude further participation in the audition process.

Applicant's Signature:	Date:
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# UNITED STATES MARINE BAND

## MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Colonel Jason K. Fettig, Director

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### Violin Audition

March 12-13, 2018

Symphony No. 39 in E-flat, K. 543 (Mozart), movement 2, mm. 1-53 (no repeats)

**Andante con moto**

30

35

40

45

50

*f*

*p*

*p*

*f*

*p*

1

2

3

4

5

6

A,

Symphony No. 1 in C, Op. 21 (Beethoven), movement 2, mm. 12-64

Andante cantabile con moto.  $\text{♩} = 120$ .

*pp* Viol. II.

Vcl.

Basso

*pp*

15

*cresc.*

*sf*

*sf*

*sf*

*sf*

*f*

*p*

27

A

38

*cresc.*

*p*

*tr*

*f*

48

*sf*

*sf*

*sf*

*tr*

*p*

B

57

*p*

Timp.

Symphony No. 1 in C, Op. 21 (Beethoven), movement 4, mm. 1-78

**Adagio.**  $\text{♩} = 63.$

**Allegro molto e vivace.**  $\text{♩} = 88.$

6

16

30

42

54

65

*ff* *p* *pp* *cresc.* *ff* *f* *sf* *sf* *ff* *sf*

*decresc.* *p*

Fl. *Ob.* *Fag.* *Fl.*



Symphony No. 9 in D minor, Op. 125 (Beethoven), movement 3, mm. 99-114

Lo stesso tempo

arco

*p dolce*

99

101

103

*cresc.* *dim.* *p*

105

107

109

*cresc.*

111

*tr* *cresc.*

113

*p*

Symphony No. 4 in B-flat, Op. 60 (Beethoven), movement 4, mm. 1-133 (no repeat)

*Allegro, ma non troppo*  $\text{♩} = 80$

8

19

26

37

51

62

71

79

87

95

*p* *pp* *cresc.* *ff* *dim.* *p* *f* *ff* *p* *ff* *cresc.* *ff* *tr.* *tr.* *p*

A

B

1. 1.



Musical score for violin audition excerpts, measures 104-129. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The first staff (measures 104-105) is crossed out with a large 'X'. The second staff (measures 106-110) begins with a *cresc.* marking. The third staff (measures 111-115) includes a *f* marking. The fourth staff (measures 116-120) features a *piu f* marking, a *ff* marking, and a *p* marking. The fifth staff (measures 121-129) includes a *cresc.* marking, a *f* marking, a *sfz* marking, a *p* marking, and a *sfz* marking. A bracket groups measures 121-125, and a *2* marking is present above measure 126. A *1* marking is present above measure 127. A *2* marking is present above measure 128. A *1* marking is present above measure 129. A box labeled 'C' is placed above measure 121.

Symphony No. 3 in F, Op. 90 (Brahms), movement 1, mm. 3-23

**Allegro con brio**

Fl. I

*f* *passionato*

*cresc.* *f*

**A**

*p*

*cresc.* *f*

**B**

*f* *sp* *dolce*

The musical score for Flute I, measures 3-23, is written in 3/4 time and F major. The tempo is Allegro con brio. The score begins with a whole rest in measure 3, followed by a series of eighth and sixteenth notes. The dynamics include *f* *passionato* in measure 3, *cresc.* and *f* in measure 7, *p* in measure 12, *cresc.* and *f* in measure 17, and *f*, *sp*, and *dolce* in measure 21. The score includes first and second endings marked A and B. The first ending (A) is in measures 12-17, and the second ending (B) is in measures 21-23. The score is written for Flute I.

Symphony No. 4 in E minor, Op. 98 (Brahms)

Movement 2, mm. 88-101

**Andante moderato**

88

95

99

*poco f espr.*

*f*

*f espr.*

*pizz.*

*p < f > p*

Movement 3, mm. 1-44

**Allegro giocoso**

1

10

19

26

32

40

*ff*

*sf*

*p*

*cresc.*

*ff*

*p*

*1*

Scherzo from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Mendelssohn), mm. 17-99

**Allegro vivace**

**VIOLINO 1**

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, Op. 61

Nº 1

16

*p*

*cresc.*

*p*

*cresc.*

*sf*

*sf*

*sf*

*p*

*sf*

*sf*

*sf*

*p*

*pp*

*pp*

*cresc.*

*p*

*dim.* - - - *al* - *pp*

15

*p*

**A**

**B**

**C**

**D**

**E**



Don Juan, Op. 20 (R. Strauss), first page

**Allegro, molto con brio**

*ff* *ff* *mf* *ff* *fff* *ff* *pp* *ff* *p* *p* *p* *cresc.* *ff*

**A** **B** **1 C**

*tranquillo* *molto vivo* *fflebile*



String Quartet in F, 1<sup>st</sup> movement, 1<sup>st</sup> Violin (Ravel)

**Modéré - Très doux** ♩ = 120

*p* *pp* *cresc.* *poco a poco* *pp express.* *f* *p* *mf* *p* *diminuendo* *pp express.* *pp léger* *p* *mf* *mf* *p* *pp* *accelerando* *Allegro* *ff* *mf* *cédez* *Tempo I° C* *p* *mp* *p* *pizz.* *p* *D a Tempo* *arco* *suivez* *pp très expr.* *p* *pp*

String Quartet in F, K. 590, 1<sup>st</sup> movement, 1<sup>st</sup> Violin (Mozart)

**Allegro moderato** m.m. ♩ = ca.72

*p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *fp*

*cre - - scendo*

10 20 30 40 50 60 70

String Quartet in C, Op. 59, No. 3, 3<sup>rd</sup> movement, 2<sup>nd</sup> Violin (Beethoven)

Menuetto grazioso ♩ = 126

*p*

*cresc.*

*f* *p* *cresc.* *f* *dim. p*

Trio

*f* *p* *fp* *p* *fp* *cresc.* *sf* *sf* *f* *p*

1.

2.

*f* *f* *sf* *f* *p* *f* *p*

*f* *p*

*cresc.* *sf*

1.

*sf* *f*

String Quartet in C, Op. 59, No. 3, 4<sup>th</sup> movement, 1<sup>st</sup> Violin (Beethoven)

**Allegro molto** ♩ = ca.132

Viol. I

Viol. II

Vc.

*ff*

*sf*

*sf*

*f*

*dim.*

*p*

*cresc.*

*f*

*p*

*cresc. sf*

*p*

*cresc.*

*ff*

*fp*

*cresc.*

*f*

*p*

*cresc.*



## UNITED STATES MARINE BAND AND MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA COLONEL JASON K. FETTIG, DIRECTOR

Marine Barracks Washington  
8th & I Streets, SE  
Washington, DC 20390-5000

Operations: (202) 433-5714  
Office of Communication: (202) 433-5809  
Fax: (202) 433-4752

[www.marineband.marines.mil](http://www.marineband.marines.mil)

# CAREER INFORMATION

## AUDITIONS

Auditions for “The President’s Own” occur only in anticipation of projected vacancies and are announced in *The International Musician*, as well as by direct mailings to college band directors and instrumental music instructors. All auditions take place in John Philip Sousa Band Hall at Marine Barracks in Washington, DC, and are conducted much like those of major symphony orchestras. There is no preliminary taped round.

Interested applicants should send a letter of inquiry with a current résumé to: Operations Officer, U.S. Marine Band, Marine Barracks, 8th and I Streets, SE, Washington, DC 20390-5000, or fax this information to (202) 433-4752. Applicants must travel to Washington at their own expense.

## MUSICAL REQUIREMENTS

No specific level of education is required, but most members hold college degrees, and many hold advanced degrees. The playing ability and expertise required are equivalent to those of any major professional musical organization.

The broad range of commitments by “The President’s Own” requires musical versatility from all band members. Typical commitments include band concerts, ceremonial events, chamber orchestra, educational outreach, small ensemble performances, touring, and recording sessions.

## QUALIFICATIONS

United States citizenship and successful completion of an extensive background investigation are mandatory in order to obtain a Secret Security Clearance with Category III White House Access. Applicants holding a dual citizenship will be required to renounce their foreign citizenship as a prerequisite to obtaining clearance. This clearance is a requirement for

the assignment of the Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) 5511- Member, United States Marine Band. Due to the length and scope of the security clearance process, it is initiated following the member’s enlistment onto active duty. Failure to obtain and maintain this security clearance will result in administrative separation from the U.S. Marine Corps. Current regulations authorize enlistment between ages 17 and 28. Age waivers may be granted in some cases; however, the maximum age for which waivers may be granted to those with no prior military service is 34. Applicants must also pass the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) and a complete physical examination, which includes complying with established height/weight standards both at the time of enlistment and throughout one’s Marine Corps career (see height/weight chart on the following page).

The playing part of the audition assesses only the individual’s musical qualifications. To be offered a position in “The President’s Own,” one must also be physically qualified and be capable of being granted the required security clearance. Selection as a finalist is not a determination that one is musically qualified for the position. Finalists are those the committee wishes to hear again in order to make a more complete assessment of their abilities.

Finalists are interviewed at the time of the audition in an effort to identify any potential problems that could affect the individual’s ability to be enlisted for duty with “The President’s Own,” either related to health or the White House security clearance. The Privacy Act notice included as part of the Applicant Fact Sheet explains that information will be requested in the selection process and personal interview to provide a basis on which to evaluate the applicant’s suitability to hold a position with “The President’s Own,” and will not be used for any other purpose. While disclosure of this information is voluntary, failure to do so could result in the inability of the staff to evaluate the applicant’s suitability for a position in



“The President’s Own” and could preclude further participation in the audition process. Likewise, disclosure of information during the interview that is determined to be disqualifying in nature could result in the applicant’s immediate dismissal from the remainder of the audition process.

The criteria for duty with “The President’s Own” are very stringent and are established by those outside agencies responsible for granting physical qualification and security clearances. “The President’s Own” must comply with the criteria and guidance provided by these outside agencies in order to assess applicants. While each applicant is different, and each will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, the following are some issues that could affect the individual’s ability to be found fully qualified for enlistment with “The President’s Own”:

**Physical Qualifications:** Disqualifying conditions may include, but are not limited to, failure to meet height/weight standards at time of enlistment; serious vision and auditory problems; hypertension; diabetes; heart defects; seizure; inflammatory bowel syndrome; loss of an eye or kidney; cancer within five years; anorexia; treatment for asthma during the past five years; allergy immunotherapy during the past two years; and physical limitations due to injury or congenital conditions. Laser eye surgery is a potential disqualifier for enlistment. Applicants who have had laser eye surgery should contact LtCol John R. Barclay, Executive Assistant to the Director, at (202) 433-3993 or john.r.barclay@usmc.mil prior to the audition. When doing so, have a copy of your contact lens/eyeglass prescription from before surgery available.

**Clearance Qualifications:** Disqualifying conditions may include but are not limited to: arrest and/or conviction of a felony; frequent involvement with authorities even as a juvenile; DWI/DUI; having been a patient in an institution primarily devoted to the treatment of mental, emotional, or psychological disorders; pattern of financial irresponsibility (bankruptcy, debt or credit problems, defaulting on a student loan); membership in any organization that advocates the commission of acts of force or violence to deny other persons their rights under the Constitution of the United States; having petitioned to be declared a conscientious objector to war; moving violations with fines over \$200; illegal drug use

(to include any use of cocaine, heroin, LSD, and PCP); and the illegal purchase, possession, or sale of any such narcotics.

Note: Applicants with questions about their specific cases should call LtCol John R. Barclay, Executive Assistant to the Director, at (202) 433-3993 or e-mail john.r.barclay@usmc.mil prior to the audition.

At the completion of the personal interview and health/security screening, if it is determined that health and/or background issues could affect an individual’s ability to be enlisted for duty with “The President’s Own,” such matters will be addressed with the respective agencies responsible for physical qualification or clearance matters. If these agencies confirm that an applicant is unequivocally disqualified for either physical or security clearance reasons, the Director reserves the right to eliminate the individual from further consideration.

Once found fully qualified and selected for a position with “The President’s Own,” applicants receive full medical and aptitude testing at the Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) nearest their current residence. This testing is coordinated by “The President’s Own” in cooperation with local Marine Corps recruiters.

ABOUT THE ENLISTMENT

The enlistment process is completed at the applicant’s local MEPS. A standard four-year enlistment contract is signed “for duty with the U.S. Marine Band only.”

Marine Band musicians are permanently assigned and may not be transferred to any other unit or location. Upon enlistment, new members are appointed to the rank of Staff Sergeant (pay grade E-6) in the U.S. Marine Corps and receive all pay and benefits commensurate with that grade. They are also subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice, the rules and articles of which govern the discipline of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Following enlistment, new members report directly to Washington, DC, with official travel and shipment of household goods conducted at government expense.

Marine Corps Weight Standards																
Male Weight Standards:																
Height (inches)	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	
Weight (pounds)																
Minimum	110	114	117	121	125	128	132	136	140	144	148	152	156	160	164	
Maximum	160	165	170	175	180	186	191	197	202	208	214	220	225	231	237	
Female Weight Standards:																
Height (inches)	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73
Weight (pounds)																
Minimum	91	94	97	100	104	107	110	114	117	121	125	128	132	136	140	144
Maximum	124	129	133	137	142	146	151	156	161	166	171	176	181	186	191	197

RECRUIT TRAINING

Members of “The President’s Own” are not required to undergo recruit training. The mission of “The President’s Own” is “to provide music and perform such other functions as are directed by the President of the United States and the Commandant of the Marine Corps.” Unlike other Marine Corps musical units, “The President’s Own” has no secondary combat role, and its members are exempt from all such training. “The President’s Own” musicians report to Washington fully trained to perform their primary duties in the accomplishment of the band’s unique musical mission. Therefore, there is no requirement for “The President’s Own” musicians to undergo recruit training. New members are instructed by the Assistant Drum Major in appropriate military and band-related subjects. This ongoing process of instruction gives each musician essential knowledge about his or her role in the U.S. Marine Corps.

PAY/ALLOWANCES

Military pay is divided into two categories: basic pay (which is taxable) and other allowances (housing, subsistence) which are not taxable. Federal, state, and social security taxes are deducted only from the income’s taxable portion. In addition, all members of the armed forces are allowed to claim legal residence in their home state if they so desire. This may also affect their state tax status (see chart below for detailed information regarding pay and benefits).

OTHER PAY INFORMATION

Members of the armed services receive pay increases after the second year of service. These increases continue at the third and fourth year and then are given every two years after that time up to year 26. In addition, requests for military pay raises are presented to Congress each year.

The Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) is determined by rank. The BAH is recomputed periodically to ensure that it conforms with actual housing costs. The Washington area has one of the highest BAH rates in the nation.

RETIREMENT BENEFITS

Members of “The President’s Own,” like all other active duty service members, are covered under the military’s Blended Retirement System. Armed services members qualify for retirement at the completion of 20 years of active service at 40 percent of their base pay, with an additional 2 percent each year thereafter. This pension benefit requires no contribution from the individual.

The Blended Retirement System also includes participation in the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP). The TSP is a defined contribution plan that allows members to save for retirement in a tax-deferred, government sponsored retirement plan. The member will be eligible for 1% automatic and up to 4% employer matching contributions to their individual account from their

Monthly Pay and Allowances for a Staff Sergeant (Pay Grade E-6)  
Effective Jan. 1, 2017

Members of the U.S. Armed Forces are paid on the 1st and 15th of each month. Of the total pay and allowances due, only the basic pay is taxable. *Monthly deductions on this chart are estimated based upon average deductions of current members.* These amounts fluctuate based upon specific state of residence, marital, and dependent status. In addition, members are paid per diem while traveling on government business and are entitled to an annual clothing allowance used to defray the costs of uniform purchase and maintenance.

Glossary:

- BAH** (Basic Allowance for Housing) — a sum determined by housing costs in the geographic region in which the members are stationed; this helps defray rent or mortgage costs.
- BAS** (Basic Allowance for Subsistence) — the sum allocated to defray the cost of meals. (Both BAH and BAS are non-taxable income).
- SGLI** (Servicemember’s Group Life Insurance) — a monthly deduction entitling the member to be insured for \$400,000. Spousal coverage is also available.
- DENTAL** — there is no cost for a member without dependents; members with one dependent pay \$11.30 monthly, more than one dependent costs \$33.88 monthly.
- USN/MC RETIREMENT HOME** — a mandatory deduction for all Sailors and Marines

Pay and Allowances:	Without Dependents	With Dependents
Basic Pay	\$2,486.70	\$2,486.70
BAH	2,109.00	2,667.00
BAS	368.29	368.29
Total Monthly Gross	4,963.99	5,521.99
Total Annual Gross	59,568.00	66,263.88

Monthly Deductions (estimated):

Federal Tax	204.15	137.86
Social Security	154.17	154.17
SGLI \$400,000	28.00	28.00
Dental	0.00	11.68
Medicare	36.05	36.05
USN/MC Ret. Home	.50	.50
Total Monthly Deductions	422.87	368.26

Monthly Net Pay:	\$4,541.12	\$5,153.73
Annual Net Pay:	\$54,493.44	\$61,844.76

Note: *Net pay* refers to the amount taken home; *gross pay* reflects income prior to deductions.

basic pay. The plan consists of five different investment funds that offer diversification over a broad range of bond and equity markets. The TSP is governed by the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board. Enrollment opportunities are available to all military personnel. The program is very similar to a civilian 401k or 403b style plan but at a lower administrative cost.

## **NON-MONETARY BENEFITS**

As active duty members of the military, “The President’s Own” musicians receive all medical and dental care, x-rays, tests, and prescriptions without charge. Dependents are also authorized to receive free medical care at selected military facilities. A contributory plan allows dependent dental care to be covered at a modest cost. Members who retire after 20 years of service also retain medical benefits through Tricare.

The musicians of “The President’s Own” receive full exchange and commissary privileges for themselves and their dependents. Members who retire after 20 years of service also retain full exchange and commissary privileges.

The Washington, DC, area has a wealth of government and military facilities that are available to active duty members and their families. These include swimming pools, tennis and racquetball courts, gymnasiums, and golf courses. Marine Corps Community Service offers rental of camping and athletic equipment, etc. at little or no cost. In addition, there are ample opportunities for recreational, cultural, educational, and historical pursuits throughout the Washington, DC, metropolitan area.

## **LEAVE (VACATION) TIME**

Marines receive 30 days paid leave each year plus some federal holidays when not on duty. Special liberty may also be granted by the Director. All requests for leave are approved or disapproved based on the band’s schedule. “The President’s Own” has no “blanket leave” periods during which the entire band is on leave at the same time. To accomplish its mission, it is necessary for the Marine Band to remain operational 365 days a year.

## **EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE**

When funds are available, Marine Corps tuition assistance pays up to 100 percent of tuition, instructional fees, laboratory fees, computer fees, and mandatory course enrollment fees combined, not to exceed \$250 per semester hour equivalent and \$4,500 per individual per fiscal year. Tuition assistance funds are authorized for vocational-technical, undergraduate, graduate, undergraduate developmental, independent study, and distance learning programs. Courses must be offered by institutions accredited by agencies recognized by the United States Department of Education.

In addition to tuition assistance, the Veteran’s Administration offers educational assistance to all active duty service members in the form of the GI Bill. Two different GI Bill programs exist: the Montgomery GI Bill and the Post 9/11 GI Bill. These programs offer a range of benefits including

the opportunity to transfer educational benefits to spouses and children. Some programs require a contribution from the service member. Information regarding the GI Bill and other educational benefits is available from the Veteran’s Administration. There are a number of colleges and universities in the Washington area, including Georgetown University, George Mason University, George Washington University, Catholic University, the University of Maryland, and the Peabody Conservatory of Music.

## **HOUSING**

Military housing is limited in the Washington area and should not be anticipated. The majority of members live in the Washington metropolitan area, including areas of Maryland and Virginia. BAH is not paid if a member obtains military housing.

## **“THE PRESIDENT’S OWN” HISTORY**

“The President’s Own” has been part of the events that have shaped our national heritage for more than two centuries. Its omnipresent role in events of national importance has made it part of the fabric of American life. Established by an Act of Congress in 1798, the Marine Band is America’s oldest continuously active professional musical organization. Its mission is unique—to provide music for the President of the United States and the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

President John Adams invited the Marine Band to make its White House debut in the unfinished Executive Mansion on New Year’s Day 1801. In March of that year, the band performed for the inaugural of Thomas Jefferson and research suggests it has performed for every Presidential inaugural since that time. In Jefferson, the band found its most visionary advocate. An accomplished musician himself, Jefferson recognized the unique relationship between the band and the Chief Executive and he is credited with giving the Marine Band its title, “The President’s Own.”

Whether performing for South Lawn arrival ceremonies, State Dinners, or receptions, Marine Band musicians appear at the White House more than 300 times each year. These performances range from a solo harpist or chamber orchestra to a dance band or full concert band, making versatility an important requirement for band members. Additionally, the band participates in more than 500 public and official performances annually, including concerts and ceremonies throughout the Washington, DC, metropolitan area. Each fall, the band travels through a region of the United States during its concert tour, a century-old tradition started by John Philip Sousa, the band’s legendary 17th director.

The Marine Band’s integral role in the national culture and in the government’s official life has affirmed the importance of the arts as a bridge between people. Since 1798, “The President’s Own” has remained the only musical organization whose mission is to provide music for the President of the United States and the Commandant of the Marine Corps. The Marine Band continues to celebrate its rich history and tradition while also breaking new ground in the organization’s third century of bringing music to the White House and to the American people.